rejected the proposal with the direction to initiate the process of fresh selection. The post will be filled up after the approval of the Competent Authority.

2. **Director (Projects & Technical):** The proposal for appointment to the post was submitted to the Competent Authority on 16.7.2004 which had approved on 18.11.2004 subject to certain conditions. Action has been initiated in compliance of the directions of the competent authority.

3. **Director (Commercial):** The Public Enterprises Selection Board recommended the panel on 29.3.2004. The vigilance clearance in respect of No. 1 candidate is awaited from the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).

Deteriorating condition of MTNL and BSNL

81. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey conducted by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, it has been revealed that the quality of service has deteriorated:

(b) whether it is also a fact that both the Units of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited in Delhi and Mumbai and most of the telecom circles of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited failed to meet the quality of service norms; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Teledensity of Urban and Rural Areas

82. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural teledensity is extremely low as compared to the urban teledensity;